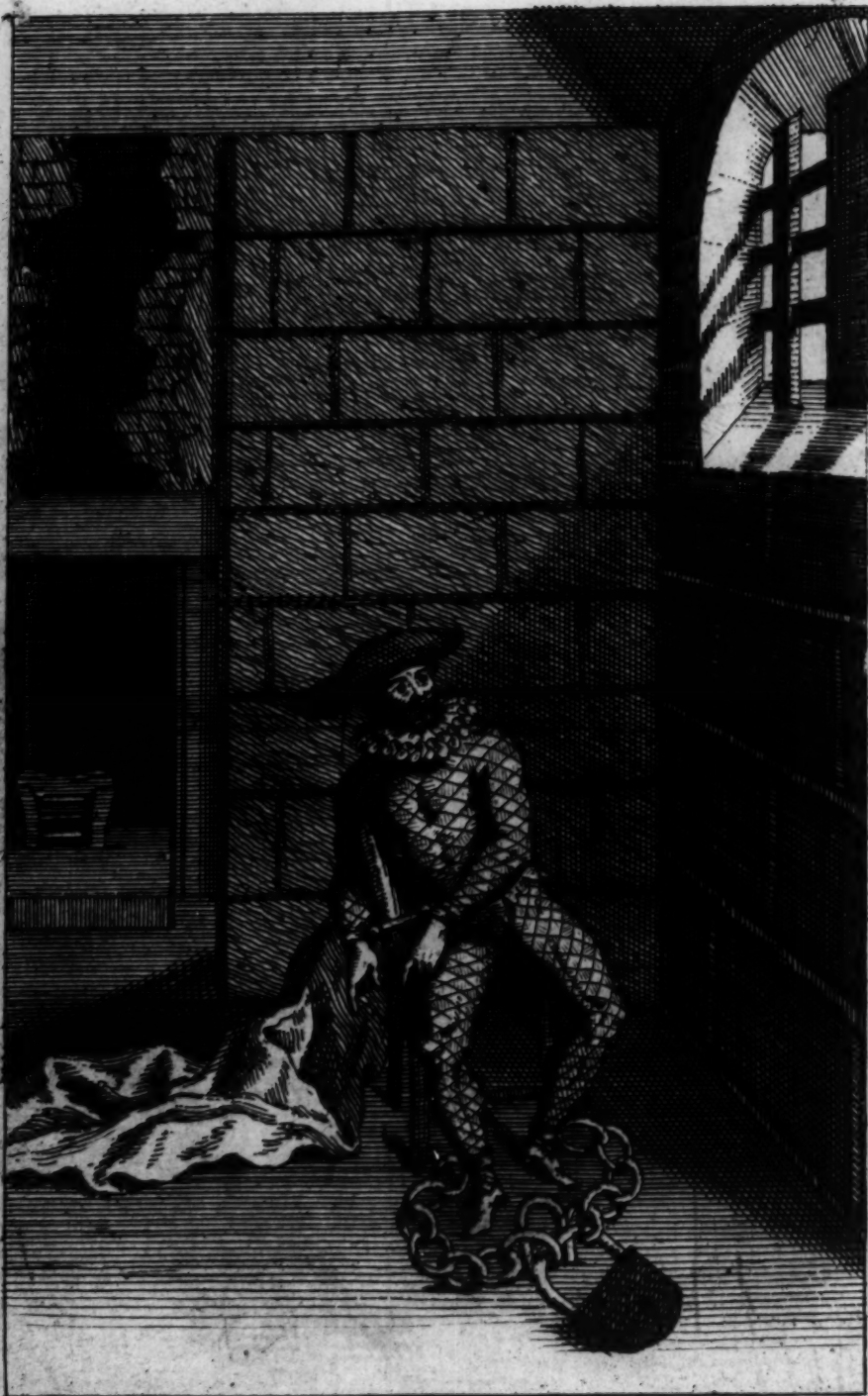
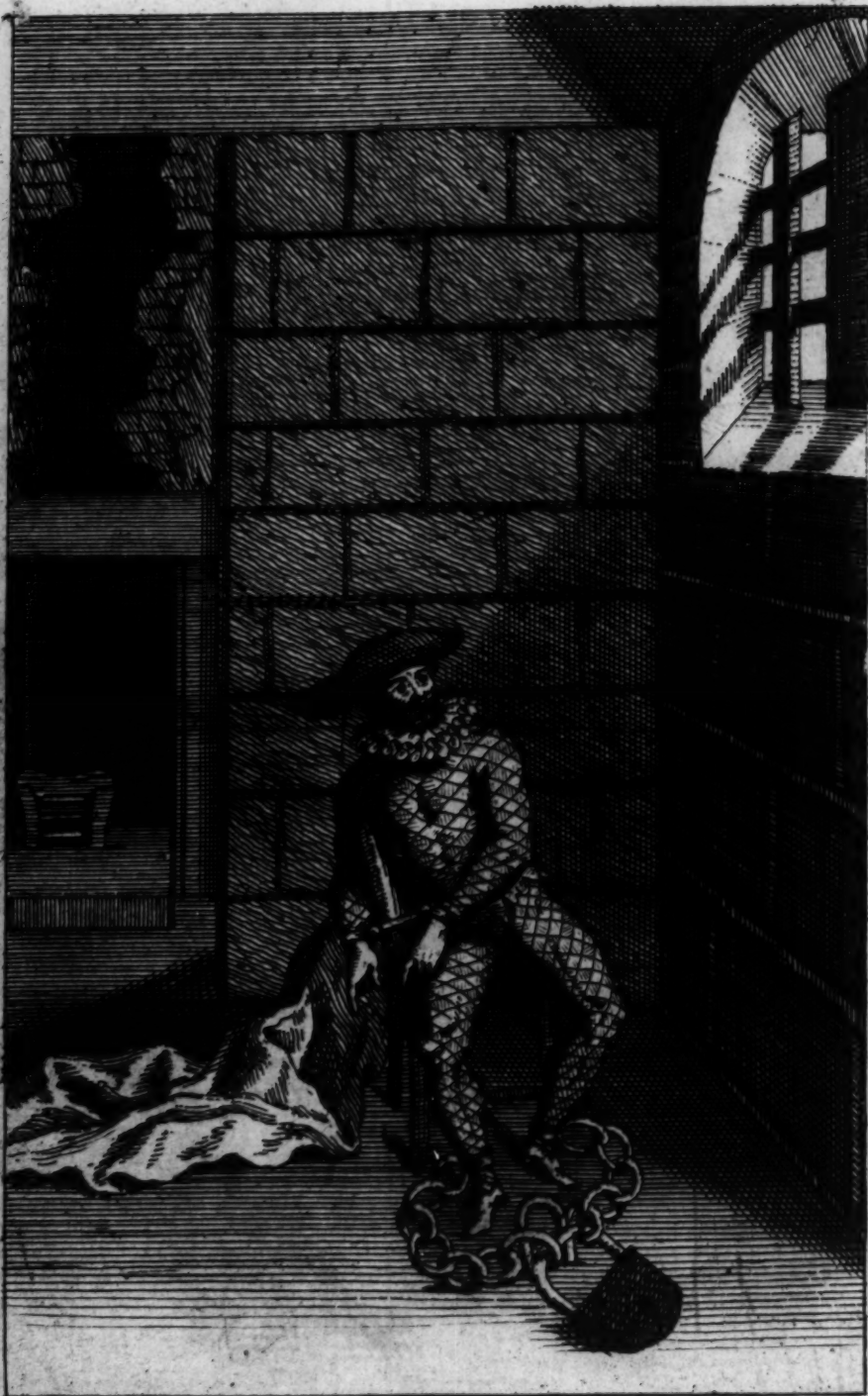




HARLEQUIN, SHEPPARD.



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Harlequin Sheppard.

A

NIGHT SCENE

I N

Grotesque Characters:

As it is Perform'd at the

THEATRE-ROYAL *in* Drury-Lane.

By JOHN THURMOND, *Dancing-Master.*

With New SCENES Painted from the
Real Places of Action.

To which is Prefix'd

AN INTRODUCTION, Giving an Account of
SHEPPARD'S LIFE:

With a Curious Frontispiece representing

HARLEQUIN SHEPPARD.

L O N D O N,

Printed: And Sold by J. Roberts in *Warwick-Lane*, and A. Dodd at the *Peacock* without
Temple-Bar. 1724. [Price 6d.]

Harlequin Shepherd.

NIGHT SCENE

11

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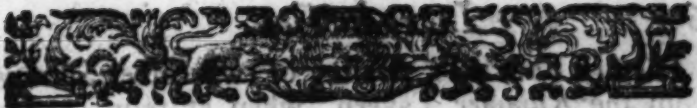
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SHEPARD'S LIFE.

With a Critical Dissertation upon the

HARLEQUIN SHEPARD.

L O N D O N

Printed: And Sold by J. Aikin in Warwick-
Lane, and A. Dods at the Theatre without
Dorset-Ban. 1754. [1754 64]



INTRODUCTION,

Giving an Account of the Life of

JOHN SHEPPARD.

WE read of abundance of *Heroes* in History, as *Alexander*, *Cesar*, *Pompey*, &c. and the many Difficulties they have underwent; and yet to make the Comparison with *Sheppard* (for we may compare great things with small) he has out-done 'em all. For had those ancient Heroes been *Fetter'd* and *Manacled* as our modern Arch-hero *Sheppard*, I dare boldly say, they must have suffer'd Execution, without a timely Reprieve. But two of them fell by the Swords of Conspirators, *Alexander* by Poison, and *Juch* by the Halber; and tho' the manner of their Deaths were not the same, yet they all might have gone on in their Actions but for envious People.

He tells us himself he was born in *Stepney Parish*, *Anno Dom. 1702*, and put Prentice to a Carpenter. His Father dy'd when he was young. He serv'd six Years of his Time pretty well, to one *Wood*; he confesses, his Master was too indulgent to him, yet often gave him good Advice; but he being incorrigible, ran into more Extravagancies, breaking the Sabbath, and despising all Things that were Holy; this way of Life by degrees brought him into worse, and like a Rent in an old Garment, for want of taking up in time, went beyond Mending.

His

His first Fact was, stealing of two Silver Spoons from the *Rummer Tavern*, when at work at his Trade; after that he got in Company with *Hind*, a vile profligate Wretch, and *Elizabeth Lyon*, alias *Edgworth Bess*, a follower of the Camp. This *Madam Edgworth* had two or three Trades, and was pretty excellent at 'em all. But she being carry'd to the *Round-House* at *St. Giles's* for stealing a Ring from a Gentleman's Finger, she sent to her beloved *Sheppard* for Relief, who immediately came and set her free, by beating the *Beadle* and his Wife, and forcing the Keys from 'em, and like *Cæsar*, *veni, vidi, vici.*

This was still while he was with his Master. His next Expedition was at *Mr. Bains's* the Piece-Broker in *White-Horse-Yard*, where he stole a piece of Fustian of twenty five Yards; which he concealed in his Trunk; some time afterwards being at work in the same Shop, he came in the Night, took up the Barrs, stole seven Pounds in Money, and Goods twice the Value, and left the Shop in *Statu quo.* This Fustian was seen by his Fellow-Prentice in *Jack's* Trunk, who told his Master; but *Jack* hearing of the Complaint, (not lying at Home) broke into his Master's House and carry'd off the Fustian undiscover'd. Upon this *Bains* was acquainted with it: *Jack* was obliged to restore nineteen Yards of it back, and so that Matter was made up. But *Sheppard* left his Master upon't, and got acquainted with *Blake* alias *Blueskin*, *Field*, *Doleing*, and *Sykes* alias *Hell* and *Fury.*

When he had left his Master, he lay at *Mr. Charles's* in *May-Fair*; but in *October 1723*, robb'd him of seven Pounds ten Shillings in Money, five Silver Spoons, six Silver Forks, four Tea Spoons, six plain and one Cypher Ring, four Suits of wearing Cloaths, and a Parcel of Linnen.

After this he was concern'd with his Brother *Thomas*, (both of the same Trades, *Thief* and *Carpenter*)

Introduction.

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penster) in robbing Mrs. Cook a Linnen Draper in Clare-street, on February the fifth last. Thomas was taken; he impeach'd his Brother John and Edgeworth Bess, not only for this Fact, but likewise as assisting in breaking Philips's House in Drury-Lane. John was taken by a Wile of Hell and Fury's, who invited him to play at Skettels at the Seven Dials, but he brought Price the Constable, who carry'd him to St. Giles's Round-House to play by himself. But he disappointed every body that time; for making his Escape thro' the Cieling, he got over the Wall of the Church-yard, and slipt among the Mob that were alarm'd by the Keeper, and went securely about his Business.

On the 19th of May last, Sheppard and Benson pickt a Gentleman's Pocket of his Watch; Benson was the Artist, but the Gentleman soon discover'd his Loss, and Sheppard was pursu'd and taken, but Benson got clear at that time. Sheppard was carry'd to St. Anne's Round-House, where he was visited by Edgeworth Bess, who was immediately order'd to keep him Company. From thence they were carry'd to New Prison; but by the help of Friends who brought him Tools, he escap'd from thence with Madam Bess, as follows.

On Whitson Monday last, about Two in the Morning, by the help of a Sheet and a Blanket ty'd together, he first put his Mistress down to explore the hidden way, and then follow'd himself, and came safe to the bottom twenty five Foot from their first setting out. But they had lik'd to have made the old Proverb good, *Out of the Frying-pan into the Fire*; for they had descended into the Yard of Clerkenwell Bridewell, and immur'd between Walls twenty two Foot high. But Jack's Courage was unsurmountable: He forc'd open the great Gate, mounted Bess upon't, and from thence to the Wall, where they were once more at Liberty.

Imme-

Immediately after this Escape he broke open the House of Mr. Carter, and robb'd Mr. Barton the Taylor of Money and Cloaths to the value of 250 l. This Fact was committed in concert with one Charles Grace a Cooper, and Anthony Lamb a Mathematical Instrument-maker. Lamb was taken, and Transported, but Grace has not as yet been heard of.

The next Robbery was that of Mr. Kneebone his Patron, whom he robb'd to the value of 108 Yards of Broad-Cloth, five Yards of blue Bays, a light Tye-Wig, a Hat, two Silver Spoons, a Pen-knife, and a Handkerchief. This Booty he and his Companion carry'd to their Warehouse, (as they call'd it) which was a Stable near the Horse-ferry, Westminster.

Sheppard and Blueskin, in the middle of July, robb'd a Lady's Woman of half a Crown, as she was going home in her Mistress's Coach. The next Night following, they robb'd Mr. Pargiter, Tallow-Chandler of Hampstead, of 3 l. all the Money he had about him.

But Fortune now began to give four Looks, for Edgworth Besi being taken, out of Fear confess'd where Sheppard was, who was instantly seiz'd at Blueskin's Mother's in Rosemary-Lane by a Retainer of Jonathan Wild's.

He was carry'd before Justice Blackerby, who order'd him to Newgate, and the following Sessions at the Old-Baily he was condemn'd for the Robbery of Mr. Kneebone. He was carry'd back to Newgate, and put into the Condemn'd Hold.

The Warrant came down for his Execution with two more Criminals. But he had been busy in the mean time, and had made a good Progress in sawing his Irons, and by the Assistance of Fogules got between two Spikes of the Hatch, and so clear of Newgate, into a Coach which was waiting for him with Page the Butcher in't.

After

Introduction.

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After committing several Robberies, they went into *Northamptonshire* to a Relation of *Page's*, both in the Habit of *Butchers*. But *Page's* Kinsman not being in extraordinary Circumstances, soon rid his Hands of 'em. From thence they came to *London*, on *September* the 8th, and Drinking in *Bishopsgate-Street*, a *Cobler* that knew *Sheppard*, cry'd out, *There's Sheppard!* upon which he and his Companion mov'd off.

The same Evening they stole three silver Watches from *Mr. Martin's*, a Watch-maker in *Fleet-Street*, after the following manner. *Sheppard* fix'd a Nail-piercer in the Post of the Door, and ty'd a String to the Knock and the Piercer, so that the Lad in the Shop could not open the Door on a sudden; then *Sheppard* broke the Glass, and run off with the Watches.

He became so harden'd at last, that he wou'd walk about *Drury-Lane* and the adjacent By-Streets, drink with his Acquaintance, and discourse openly of his Tricks, as he call'd 'em.

One Night he had a narrow Escape. One *Iretson* a *Bailiff* seeing him and *Page* cross *Drury-Lane*, pursu'd them, but laid hold of *Page*, while in the interim *Sheppard* made off, and *Iretson* let *Page* go, thinking him of no manner of Consequence.

The Keepers of *Newgate* being censur'd for *Sheppard's* Escape, us'd all the Methods they cou'd think of to Re-take him. They seiz'd upon *Edgeworth Best*, and had her committed to the Counter for aiding him in his Escape. They promis'd her fair, and threaten'd, but to no purpose, for it was believ'd she knew not where he was. The Keepers at last had Intimation that He and *Page* were seen upon *Finchly-Common*. They immediately upon the Information went arm'd to seek 'em, four in a Coach, and four on Horseback; they had not been a Quarter of an Hour upon the

B

Common,

Common; but they spy'd *Sheppard* and *Page* in Butchers Frocks, &c. *Sheppard* saw the *Posse*, and immediately struck into a Foot-path, and *Page* after him. But Mr. *Langley* one of the *Turnkeys* soon overtook *Page*, and made him surrender at Discretion; and follow'd hard after *Sheppard*, who had fled for shelter to an old Stable, and was discover'd by a Girl of the House, who perceiv'd his Toes peeping out of the Straw; they soon seiz'd him, and return'd him to the Place from whence he came. He made an Attempt just as he lighted out of the Coach at *Newgate* to slip from among his Guard, but it prov'd fruitless. He had two of the Watches about him when he was taken, that he stole from Mr. *Martin*, one under each Arm. He was remov'd from the *Condemn'd Hold* to the *Castle*, as a Place more secure, because they had found at two several times, Implements to facilitate his Escape, tho' he wou'd never discover who procur'd him those Instruments. He clear'd *Page* of being assistant in any of his Robberies. But he declar'd he wou'd never forgive *Field*, for having so little Honour as to steal the Goods from their Warehouse at *Westminster*.

The Head Keepers discover'd that he had loosen'd his Irons; which compell'd 'em to put on larger and stronger, and Handcuffs likewise. The manner of his last Escape, as he has declar'd to several that went to see him, was as follows.

On *Thursday* the fifteenth of *October* at three in the Afternoon, when the Officers of *Newgate* were busy at Sessions, he began his Work. First, he clear'd his Manacles, and twisted off a Link of the Chain between his Legs. The Fetlocks he drew up to his Calves, wrap'd his Stockings round 'em to prevent their rattling, and with his Garters ty'd about his Waste, fix'd 'em there. Then he wrench'd out a Bar of the Grate, and with that broke a Hole in the Chimney, and got into the *Red Room*. The Door

Door of that Room had not been open for seven Years before, he got off the Nut of the Lock, and so into the Entry that leads to the *Chappel*. But the *Chappel-Door* was the most difficult, because he was forc'd to break away the Wall that held the Bolt on the other Side. Being in the *Chappel*, he forc'd one of the Iron Spikes out, and got over with some Difficulty. But the worst of all was the Door between the *Chappel* and the *Leads*, by reason of its Strength, and the Darknes of the Night; for Day had left him: but in half an Hour he forc'd that; and after, a more difficult one than that, by removing the Fillet of the Door. Then he got upon the Lower Leads, and so to the higher. But when there, the Difficulty was to get down, so he return'd the same Way he came to fetch a Blanket, which he fix'd in the Wall of *Newgate*, and dropt upon the *Turner's Leads*, the Door of which was open: and after some Stay in the Garret, because there was Company up two pair of Stairs in the *Turner's House*, he went down, and so got out of the Street Door, and by two in the Morning got to *Tottenham-Court*, and took Shelter in an old Cow-House, where he slept for three Hours, and remain'd the next Day till Night: then he ventur'd out (being almost starv'd) and bought him some Bread and Cheese, and small Beer, and return'd to the same Lodging. The same he did the next Day, being *Saturday*. The Man that own'd the Tenement came on *Sunday*, and ask'd him who he was? *Sheppard* told him he was a poor Fellow that had made his Escape from *Bridewell*, being sent there for want of Security for a Bastard Child. The Man pity'd him, as being formerly his own Case, but yet told him he did not care how soon he was gone.

A poor Man coming by immediately after, he told the same Story to him, and offer'd him twenty Shillings for a Hammer and Punch, which he

brought him; he knock'd off his Fetters, and had once more his Legs at Liberty. He lunk'd up and down about his old Haunts for some Time, and at last resolv'd to get beyond Sea, and in order to it he broke into the Shop of Messieurs *Rawlins*, Pawnbrokers in *Drury-Lane*, and equipt himself with Cloaths and Money, and appear'd the next Day in Publick dress'd like a Gentleman; and went under *Newgate* in a Hackney Coach with his Sweet-heart and another Woman. On *Saturday* the 31st of *October* he drank from Place to Place 'till he was quite drunk, and seisd by his Carelessness, being discover'd by an Ale-house Boy that knew him, and once more carry'd to *Newgate*, and from thence to *Westminster-Hall*, the 10th day of *November*, where he own'd himself to be the same Person that was committed for the above-mention'd Facts. And on *Monday* the 16th day of *November*, was carry'd to *Tyburn*, where he was Executed. He was cut down by a Soldier, and the Mob carry'd his Body to the *Barley-Mow* in *Long-Acre*, where he was expos'd to the view of all that came, and bury'd the same Evening in *St. Martin's Church-Yard*.



Harle-



Harlequin Sheppard.

THE Curtain draws up, and discovers *Sheppard* in the Room call'd the *Castle of Newgate*, with his Fetters on, and padlock'd to the Ground. The Music plays a Plaintive Tune. He seems ruminating on his hard Condition; and vewing with great Concern the Place of his Abode, finds a small Nail, with which he unlocks the Padlock that holds his Chains fix'd to the Floor. Seems pleas'd; attempts to get up the Chimney, but is suppos'd to be hinder'd by an Iron Bar that goes across the Inside. While he is doing this, one of the *Keepers* enters and discovers him without his Irons, at which he

he seems much surpris'd, runs out, and calls the rest, who immediately enter, place *Sheppard* on his Stool again, manacle him, and load him with much heavier Chains than the former, and fix him again to the Staple. They go out, and one returns with a Pie, which he gives him, and leaves him. The Music changes. When *Sheppard's* alone, he opens the Pie, and takes out his Implements, and goes to Work. First he undoes his Manacles with his Teeth, and then twists one of his Chains asunder; after that ties up his Fetters to his Waste with his Garters, goes to work on the Chimney, and in a little time picks out the Bricks with the broken Piece of his Chain, and ascends the Breach.

The SCENE changes to a Room call'd the *Red-Room* in *Newgate*, where he is again discover'd coming in thro' the Breach. He seems to rejoice, and goes to the Door of the *Red-Room*, and
with

[15]

with his Implements forces the Lock,
and goes out.

The SCENE changes to *the Street*.
Several Prisoners pass over the Stage
with the Keepers of *Newgate*. Among
the Prisoners, are suppos'd to be *Blue-
skin*, *Julian the Black*, &c. Several
People follow 'em as it were to the
Old Baily to receive their Tryal. The
Music changes. Enter two People as
from the *Old Baily* in Surprize, one
with a Pen-knife in his Hand, who
makes Signs that one of the Prisoners
had cut a Man's Throat. Immediately
the Prisoners Re-enter, and *Blueskin*
exulting, imagining that he had cut
Jonathan Wild's Throat effectually.
Some of the Keepers bring across *Jona-
than Wild*, with his Throat cut. Some
of the Prisoners sing the following Song.

SONG:

S O N G:

*Sung by Mr. HARPER.**To the Tune of Packington's Pound.*

I.

T*E* Fellows of Newgate whose Fingers are nice,
In diving in Pockets, or cogging of Dice,
Ye Sharpers so rich, who can buy off the Noose,
Ye honest poor Rogues, who die in your Shoes,
Attend, and draw near,
Good News ye shall hear,

How Jonathan's Throat was cut from Ear to Ear;
How Blueskin's sharp Penknife hath set you at Ease,
And every Man round me, may Rob, if they please.

II.

When to the Old Baily this Blueskin was led,
He held up his Head, his Indictment was read:
Loud rattled his Chains. Near him Jonathan stood,
For full forty Pounds was the Price of his Blood.

Then hopeless of Life,
He drew his Penknife,
And made a sad Widow of Jonathan's Wife;
But forty Pounds paid her, her Grief shall appease,
And every Man round me, may Rob, if they please.

III. Knave

III.

*Knaves of Old to hide Guilt, by their cunning Inven-
Call'd Briberies Grants, and plain Robberies Pensions;
Physicians and Lawyers (who took their Degrees,
To be learned Rogues) call'd their Piffering, Fees:*

Since this happy Day,

Now every Man may,

*Rob (as safe as in Office) upon the High-way,
For Blueskin's sharp Penknife hath set you at Ease,
And every Man round me, may Rob, if they please.*

IV.

*Some cheat in the Customs, some rob the Excise,
But he who robs both is esteemed most Wise;
Church-Wardens, who always have dreaded the Halter,
As yet, only venture to steal from the Altar:*

But now to get Gold

They may be more Bold,

*And rob on the High-way, since Jonathan's Gold;
For Blueskin's sharp Penknife hath set you at Ease,
And every Man round me, may Rob, if they please.*

V.

*Some, by Publick Revenues, which pass'd thro' their
Have purchas'd clean Houses, and bought dirty Lands;
Some to steal from a Charity think it no Sin,
Which, at home (says the Proverb) does always begin;*

But if ever you be

Assign'd a Trustee,

*Treat not Orphans like Masters of the Charity,
But take the High-way, and more honestly seize,
For every Man round me, may Rob, if they please.*

C

VI. What

*What a Pother has here been, with Wood and his Brass,
 Who wou'd modestly make a few Halfpennies pass?
 The Patent is good, and the Precedent's old,
 For Diomede changed his Copper for Gold.*

But if Ireland despise

The new Halfpennies,

*With more Safety to rob on the Road, I advise.
 For Blueskin's sharp Penknife has set you at Ease,
 And every Man round me, may Rob, if they please.*

After the Song is ended they go out, and the SCENE changes to the Outside of *Newgate*. *Sheppard* is discover'd coming from the Top of *Newgate* upon the *Turner's* Leads by the help of a Blanket.

The SCENE changes to the Outside of the *Turner's* House. The Stage is entirely darken'd. The *Turner's* Maid is discover'd walking backward and forward in the Room, as if about Business, with a Candle in her Hand. *Sheppard* is seen cautiously walking behind her. She hears the Clink of his Irons, and discovers the utmost Surprise, looks about, at which *Sheppard* retires; she seeing nothing, goes off frightened. *Sheppard*

pard follows her. The Maid is discover'd in another Room, she undresses herself, puts out the Candle, and is suppos'd to go to Bed. The Windows of this last Scene are transparent, so that the Persons in the Action are seen by the Spectators thro' the Window.

The SCENE changes to the Outside of *Newgate*. *Sheppard* comes out at the Door of the *Turner's* House, and goes into a Coach waiting for him under the Gate, which immediately drives away. The Keepers enter in a great Surprize and Consternation, as having just found out *Sheppard's* Escape. They point up to the Top of *Newgate*, to the Blanket which *Sheppard* had left behind him, and knock at the *Turner's* Door. The Maid comes out, and seems surpriz'd. She goes in again, and the Keepers retire.

The SCENE changes to *Drury-Lane*. The Sign of the 3 Bowls hung out. *Sheppard* enters merrily, goes to the Pawn-broker's, and is suppos'd to

break it open. Enters again with a Bundle, and goes out, rejoicing.

The SCENE changes to *Newton's-Lane*. *Sheppard* enters, and breaks open the Cellar of a House, and goes in. The Mob follow him immediately, and run down after him into the Cellar. He breaks out into the Street thro' the Iron Grate of the Cellar; some follow him the same way, and the rest come up again. *Sheppard* finding himself hard pursu'd, tears down the Shutter of a Window, and throws himself thro' the Glass into the House. The Mob pursue him, and enter the House thro' the Window. *Sheppard* comes out from another part of the House, and the Mob following him hard, he throws himself into a Window up one pair of Stairs of the adjacent House, and from thence breaks thro' the Cieling, gets on the Top of the House, and throws down the Tiles upon the People below. They to avoid 'em run down into the Cellar; he immedi-

immediately comes down, and bars 'em in. One of 'em is endeavouring to come out of the Cellar-grate, whom he knocks down, and goes off.

The SCENE changes to *Clare-Market*, and discovers a Butcher's Shop. *Sheppard* comes in very merry, and goes to purchase some of the Meat. While he is employ'd with the Butcher, an Ale-house Boy comes in, with Potts over his Shoulder, and discovering *Sheppard*, retires. *Sheppard* and the Butcher go off together.

The SCENE changes to a Room in an Ale-house. *Frisky Moll* enters, and seems to be pleas'd, as having heard of *Sheppard's* Escape. *Sheppard* comes in, and discovering himself to her, she's mightily rejoic'd. They drink together, and after some time dance. While they are in high Mirth, the Ale-house Boy appears with the Constable and others, and seize *Sheppard*. *Frisky Moll* makes Resistance, but they carry him off: And the Entertainment concludes with

A

A CANTING SONG,

Sung by FRISKY MOLL.

The Words by Mr. Harper.

From Priggs that snaffle the Prancers strong, (1)
 To you of the Peter Lay, (2)
 I Pray now listen a while to my Song,
 How my Boman be hick'd away. (3)

He broke thro' all Rubbs in the Whitt, (4)
 And chiv'd his Darbies in twain; (5)
 But fileing of a Rumbo Ken, (6)
 My Boman is snabbled again. (7)

I Frisky Moll, with my Rum Coll, (8)
 Wou'd Grub in a Boozing Ken; (9)
 But ere for the Scran he had tipt the Cole, (10)
 The Harman he came in. (11)

(1) Gentlemen of the Pad. (2) Those that break
 Shop-Glasses, or cut Portmanteaus behind Coaches.
 (3) Her Rogue had got away. (4) Newgate, or
 any other Prison. (5) Saw'd his Chains in two.
 (6) Robbing a Pawn-broker's Shop. (7) Taken
 again. (8) Clever Thief. (9) Wou'd eat in an
 Ale-house. (10) Before the Reckoning was paid.
 (11) The Constable.

A Famble (12), a Tattle (13), and two Pops, (14)

Had my Boman when he was ta'en;

But had he not Bowz'd in the Diddle Shops, (15)

He'd still been in Drury-Lane.

(12) A Ring. (13) A Watch. (14) A Pair of
Pistols. (15) Geneva Shops.

F I N I S.



Camurani

I 33

Atmelle (12) o Tante (13) and two Pops (14)

Let my Roman when he was 10 or 11

But had he not been in the Middle Shop (17)

He'd still been in Drupe I guess

(12) A Ring (13) 20/100 (14) A Pair of



1710

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